

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
BAR - BENCH - MEDIA CONFERENCE**

A meeting of the Bar-Bench-Media Conference was held on Wednesday, September 13, 1995 at 1:00 p.m. in the Supreme Court Conference Room in the Carvel State Office Building in Wilmington. The meeting was open to the public. Notice of the meeting had been posted. The members of the Conference in attendance were:

**Members from the Print News Media**

Tamara Brittingham  
Rita Farrell  
James Flood  
John Sweeney  
John Taylor

**Members from the Electronic News Media**

Marilyn Buerkle  
Allen Loudell  
William Osborne  
Michael Sigman

**Members from the Bench**

Judge Jay Paul James  
Judge Roderick R. McKelvie

**Members from the Bar**

Eugene H. Bayard, Esquire  
Richard D. Kirk, Esquire  
Harvey B. Rubenstein, Esquire

Tammy Brittingham called the meeting to order. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved. Mr. Thomas Nagle, Court Administrator of the Justice of the Peace Courts, attended on behalf of Chief Magistrate Griffin who was unable to attend the meeting. Peter T. Dalleo, Clerk of the United States District Court for the District of Delaware attended the meeting and was introduced to the Conference by Judge McKelvie.

Bill Osborne reported that the FOIA Committee had been unable to meet. However, he did have telephone conversations with Attorney General Brady, Gretchen Bender, and Steve Taylor concerning a FOIA conference. Harvey Rubenstein volunteered to become a member of the Committee. Harvey suggested that the FOIA conference be open to the Bar, and CLE credit should be arranged. Bill Osborne said that he would update the Conference on the progress of the Committee at the next meeting.

John Sweeney reported that the Education Committee held informal sessions on the same day at the News Journal Building and in Dover with Chief Judge Poppiti. He said that the sessions were informative and open with the opportunity for give and take by both the media and Family Court. It was suggested that one more of this type of session be held before the end of the year. Possible topics were death penalty procedures and the Justice of the Peace Courts.

Rita Farrell initiated a brief discussion of the O.J. Simpson trial. Rita thought it would be interesting to get the reactions of judges and lawyers as to the trial including television coverage and the financial burdens that such a trial places on the judicial system. It was thought that the Education Committee might want to have an informal program dealing with these issues.

Harvey Rubenstein noted that the Centennial of the Delaware State Constitution of 1897 would be celebrated in 1997. He suggested the Conference sponsor a program to celebrate the Centennial. A Centennial Committee was formed to explore the possibility of sponsoring a Centennial program. The committee members are Tammy Brittingham, Rita Farrell, Justice Holland, Harvey Rubenstein, and John Taylor.

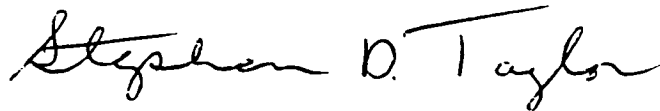
The status of the Conference's proposal to expand electronic media coverage in the trial courts was the next item discussed. The Conference asked Steve Taylor to find out if the Supreme Court wanted the Conference to hold another demonstration of how the electronic media would cover a trial court proceeding under the proposal. Steve was also asked to find out if the Court wanted any other information that would be helpful to the Court in reaching a decision.

Mike Sigman spoke briefly about the Steve Brill article that had been distributed to the Conference. Mike summarized the major points of the article

for those who did not have an opportunity to read the report.

The next meeting of the Conference is scheduled for Thursday, November 16, 1995 at 1:00 p.m. at the News Journal Building on Basin Road. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stephen D. Taylor". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "Stephen D. Taylor".

Date: November 13, 1995